

**Minutes of the
Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting**

Held 6pm, February 12, 2007, San José City Hall
200 E. Santa Clara St, 8th Floor, Room T847

1. **Call to Order** - Chairperson Payne called the meeting to order at 6.05pm.

Present

Don Barnett
Eugene Cordero
Lawrence DeSantis
Deb Lefferts (for Lane Parker)
Charlie Payne
Yolanda Reynolds
Akos Szoboszlay (for Bart Thielges)
Corinne Winter

Absent

Bob Halem
Luis Mendez

Staff

John Brazil

2. **Approval of Order of Business** – Approved.

3. **Oral Petitions** - None.

4. **Approval of Minutes of January 8, 2007** – ?? moved approval, ?? seconded. The motion passed 4-0-3 (Cordero, Lefferts, and Payne abstained).

Ms. Reynolds joined the meeting.

5. **New Business**

- a. **Election of 2007 Officers** – Mr. Szoboszlay nominated Ms. Winter as Vice-Chair. Ms. Reynolds seconded. Ms. Winter accepted the nomination. The nomination was approved 7-0-1 (Winter abstained).

Mr. DeSantis nominated Mr. Payne as Chair. Ms. Winter seconded. Mr. Payne accepted the nomination. The nomination was approved 7-0-1 (Payne abstained).

- b. **2007 Committee Priorities** – Mr. Brazil stated that, at the beginning of each calendar year, the committee traditionally establishes a list of top goals and projects for the year. This helps the Committee remain focused and effectively apply the limited time and resources committee members have to offer during the year. To facilitate committee discussion, Mr. Brazil distributed copies of minutes from the committee's January 9, 2006 meeting, which included goals and projects considered last year. Mr. Brazil noted that one of the committee's two 2006 goals has been accomplished (obtain national Bicycle Friendly Cities designation) and that the second goal is still a work in process (implement Signed, Numbered Cross-town Bikeways).

Committee members expressed a desire to change committee bylaws so that the committee reports directly to City Council. Committee members agreed that the current reporting system (to Director of Transportation) has prevented the committee from obtaining the political attention and resources necessary to accomplish committee goals. Mr. Szoboszlay moved that the March 12, 2007 agenda include an item requesting that the committee's bylaws be changed so that the committee reports directly to City Council. Mr. Barnett seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0-0.

The committee returned to its discussion of 2007 priorities. Mr. Cordero left the meeting. Ms. Reynolds said she hoped the committee would pay greater attention to pedestrian issues.

Mr. Barnett moved that the committee establish the following work plan goals for calendar 2007:

Policy Goal 1 – Change the committee bylaws and reporting structure so that the committee reports directly to City Council.

Policy Goal 2 – Ensure that effective bicyclist and pedestrian accommodation to and through the airport area is included in the airport's current design-build contract.

Technical Goal 1 – Have the city adopt and implement Caltrans' standards for Bicycle-Friendly-Signal-Detection and Pavement Markings.

Technical Goal 2 – Implement the committee's 2006 goal of a Signed, Numbered Cross-town Bikeways.

Mr. Szoboszlay seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0-0.

- c. **Bike to Work Day** – Mr. Brazil reported that for 2007, the statewide Bike to Work Day (BTWD) will be held on May 17, 2007. Traditionally, on the morning of BTWD, the committee organizes and operates one or more Energizer Stations in San José. Energizer Stations are tables with free bicycling information, free breakfast snacks, free bicycle helmets, and other supplies. The committee often organizes a media and public official bike ride. The committee agreed that last year's strategy of focusing on one location worked well, and that should be the same focus this year. This event will be on the March, April, and May committee agenda so the committee can continue organizing this event.
- d. **Bike Rack Grant** – Mr. Brazil reported that the Bike/Ped Program obtained a grant to install approximately 200 inverted-U style bicycle racks. He requested the committee's assistance in identifying appropriate locations for installing bike racks. Generally, bike racks may only be installed in the public right-of-way, on paved or concrete surfaces. Bike racks may not obstruct access to utilities, driveways, car parking or other curb-side features. Bike racks must not block the pedestrian right of way. Mr. Brazil distributed a flier with this information and asked members to help identify locations for bike racks. He agreed to email the flyer to committee members. The project is currently in the scoping phase and will not go to construction until later this year.

6. **Old Business** – Mr. Brazil reported there was no new information on these items.
- a. **Numbered Bikeway Update** – See discussion in agenda item 5(b) above.
 - b. **County Expressway Pedestrian Planning** – Mr. Brazil first provided a review of the history on this item. In a previous meeting, the committee passed a motion directing the Chairperson and Mr. Brazil to prepare and send to County Roads a letter requesting the removal of all pedestrian prohibition signs on expressways in San Jose. Mr. Brazil previously provided committee members a copy of this letter. He agreed to send it to them again. Since then, San José DOT management directed Mr. Brazil to first contact County Roads staff and request reports or analysis that would substantiate the need for any pedestrian prohibition. Mr. Brazil reported that he is in contact with County Roads and will report back on their response.
 - c. **SJ Airport** – See discussion in agenda item 5(b) above. Mr. Brazil reported no new information was available.
7. **Staff Report** – Mr. Brazil reported that the March agenda would include three new items. One will be a presentation from the Planning Department on the Coyote Valley Specific Plan (CVSP). Mr. Brazil agreed to send committee members a public web page link with information on CVSP. The second will be a list of proposed projects for FY07-08 Transportation Development Act, Article III funding. The third will be a report on the Bike Lane Work Plan for FY06-07.
- Mr. Brazil also distributed three handouts on the following subjects. On February 21, 2007, San José will host the stage 3 finish of the Amgen Tour of California (ATOC) professional bicycle race. In support of ATOC, on February 17, 2007, San José will host an amateur King-of-the-Mountain bike ride that is open to the public. Finally, the Bike/Ped Program was quoted in San Jose Mercury News coverage of state Assembly Bill 60 which would change current requirements for passing a bicycle on-street from a “safe distance” to three feet.
8. **Committee Member Comments** – Mr. Burnett reported he recently saw new sidewalks installed on a section of Almaden Expressway. Ms. Winter asked about the status of the BART project. Mr. Brazil said he would request a report for a future BPAC meeting.
9. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7.45pm.